

# Link

For the parishes of Bunbury & Tilstone Fearnall



August  
September  
2012

*Keep your faith in God, but keep your powder dry*

*Oliver Cromwell*

## St Boniface Annual Fete

Beeston Castle

August Bank Holiday

Monday 27 August

11am-5pm

Details of all the many fete  
attractions on page 5

## Join us to welcome our new vicar Tim Hayward



A special service is to be held in St Boniface on **Friday 14 September at 7.30pm** at which the Bishop of Chester, the Rt Revd Dr Peter Forster will institute Tim Hayward as our new vicar. At the same service the Archdeacon of Chester will induct and

install him. Perhaps only the Church of England could come up with three different ceremonies for the same thing – starting a job. In similar circumstances many of us would just be shown where our desk was and how to make the coffee.

Each part of the service has a special significance. The institution by the Bishop licenses Tim to act on his behalf in the parishes of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall whilst the induction gives him possession of the property that goes with the job – including somewhat bizarrely the church itself – as well as some other ancient rights such as being allowed to graze sheep in the churchyard! The installation is “what it says on the tin” – showing Tim to his official stall in the church (which he will probably never use again as it is out of sight behind the nave screen).

Whatever the formalities, this is going to be a great occasion to which local dignitaries and community leaders will be invited. Please do join us to welcome Tim, his wife Beth and their two children Rose and Poppy to the church and the village. The service will be followed by free celebratory refreshments in St Boniface’s traditional hospitable style (ie sumptuous food and plenty to drink). We expect a packed church!

## Also in this issue...



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# Who we are

Until our new vicar is in place, please call readers Peter & Kath Collinge for pastoral support on 01829 260077 or the churchwardens for all general enquiries (details below).

## St Boniface

### Churchwardens

Neil Dewson-Smyth 261680  
Jill Robey 260081

### Youth Worker

Kim Beswick 07526 251408

### Secretary

Vacancy

### Organist

Andrew Dean 261222

### Treasurer

John Mason 733971

### Flowers

Margaret Bourne 260944

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## St Jude's

### Churchwardens

Brigid Sayce 260865  
Elizabeth Marren 01270 528556

### Secretary

Vacancy

### Organist

Ann Badrock 260343

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## Calveley

### Churchwardens

Neil Dewson-Smyth 261680  
Jill Robey 260081

### Secretary

Yvonne Wood 01270 528442

### Organist

John Batchelor 261056

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## The Link

We are always happy to get calls/ emails about The Link. Please contact us if you would like to advertise your business, or if you want to send us your news, views and pictures.

### Advertising

E: parishlinkads@gmail.com

### Editorial

Jo Mason

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### Community News

E: charlellen@hotmail.com

You can also read The Link online at:  
[www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk](http://www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk)

# Community news



We are delighted to announce the birth of **Dylan Ernest Broadhead**, son of Leena and John Broadhead and grandchild to Peter and Mia Crump.

We also welcome the new grandson of Ann James of Wyche Lane and great-grandson of Mary, **William Patrick Pattinson**, born on 12 May to Alex and Chris.



St Boniface was packed with family and friends to celebrate the marriage of **Richard Gannon to Lucy Broadbent** on 19 July. Congratulations, Richard and Lucy!

Congratulations to former Bunbury resident, **Simon Wilgose**, now living in Melbourne, who married Amy Shaw in Bali. The families are also delighted that Andy Wilgose and Lauren Kropp, also in Melbourne, have become engaged.



**St. Jude's annual summer lunch** took place on 25 June at the home of Anne Latham. It was much enjoyed by over 100 diners and raised £1390 for Church funds. Many thanks to all who made it a success.

Congratulations to **Peter and Helen Jones**,



who completed the 177 miles and 677 stiles of the Offa's Dyke Path from Prestatyn to Chepstow, raising £4875 for a prostate cancer charity, well

exceeding their target of £3000.

On Friday 17 August **Johnny Gillett** will be entertaining customers of Tilly's Coffee Shop in Bunbury. He will be telling tales and signing copies of his book 'Cheshire Folk Tales'.

Unfortunately the **Summer Holiday Club has been cancelled** due to low interest, however the next Messy Church will be held on a Sunday at Harvest Festival time.

To save postage and advertising, **St Luke's Hospice** needs volunteer leaflet droppers. Volunteers can commit to just one road or as much as they can. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jane Thompson at: [Jane\\_Thompson@stlukes-hospice.co.uk](mailto:Jane_Thompson@stlukes-hospice.co.uk)

The **Gardening Club** is hosting two events in August: on 21 August there will be a visit to Dibley's Nursery in Ruthin at 5:30pm at Dibley's; on 25 August the Annual Show will be held. For more information please contact Adrian Caine on 261163 or email [ruffield@sky.com](mailto:ruffield@sky.com)

Good luck to **Will Munson** (15) of Houghton, a Tarporey Fire Cadet raising money for Cheshire Fire & Rescue's Ghana Project 2013. "We will spend about a week in Ghana helping to build a school - mainly external and internal walls, plastering etc. We'll also be part of the handing over ceremony at the end of the week."

Congratulations to **Phil Illingworth** who, in a group of 90 riders, completed the 250-mile bike challenge from Calais to Reims. Taking three days in total, the group raised a total of £130,000 (which with company match-funding makes over £250,000) for the St James' Place Foundation.

Congratulations to former organist at St Boniface, **Martin Cook**, who completed his PhD in Choral Conducting and has been appointed Director of Music Ministries and Youth Choir(s) Director at Christ Episcopal Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The newly reopened **Bunbury Watermill** needs **volunteers** on Sundays to show visitors around, answer questions and learn how to mill the grain to flour. A few friends of the mill have already made very good bread! Contact the Mill for information.

With Nick Sanders' imminent move, **the Link team needs help**. If you could liaise with **advertisers**, please contact Jo or John Mason on 733971 (volunteers only please). The Link distribution team is also looking for a volunteer to deliver six copies to **Tilstone Bank**. If you can help, please contact Barbara Croley on 260344.

**Bunbury and Tiverton Methodist Chapels** meet each Sunday at 10.45am. The first Sunday of the month they meet at Tiverton, and they meet on other Sundays in the Bunbury Chapel by the playing fields. All are welcome to join in. A joint service is held at St. Boniface on every fifth Sunday at 10.00am. The **Trinity Womens' Fellowship** meets every fourth Tuesday of the month in Bunbury Methodist Chapel at 2.30pm. The **copy deadline** for the October issue of the Link is **Friday 14 September**. The magazine should be in church for delivery on **Friday 28 September**.

## Our prayers for August

We pray for **Jean Healey**. We pray for everyone who is mourning a loved one including the families of **Georgina Cheers** and **Ethel Walley**. We pray for the **Revd Canon Bill Baker**, Rural Dean of Nantwich, and his family, following the sudden death of his wife, **Jan**. We pray for **Tim Hayward**, his wife **Beth** and their children, and for **Alex and Nick Sanders** as Alex prepares to take up her new role as vicar of Mellor.

# Bunbury Aldersey School News



The Revd Alex Sanders explains the journey she went on to become a vicar

In surprisingly beautiful weather, Bunbury School celebrated the Diamond Jubilee with a huge garden party. Along with jelly and cakes, there were fancy hats and they even had their own Queen and Prince Philip for the day.

Haberdashers' Deputation day was held on 22 May and the new Master Deborah Knight - the first lady Master - officially

opened a new sensory garden called 'Roger's Garden' in the grounds of the school.

On Friday 13 July the school held their annual 'Aspirations Day'. On this day lots of visitors come in to school to talk about how they got to do the job they do. The visitors are mainly local people and in the past have included chefs, hairdressers, footballers and a dentist, just to mention a few.



The Queen, Kate and William at the Jubilee Celebration

*The Higgs boson walks into a church and the priest says, "What are you doing here?" The Higgs says, "Well, you can't have mass without me."*

## Church diary for August and September

Wednesday 1 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 2 September	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Sunday 5 August	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Jude's St Boniface Calveley	Wednesday 5 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 8 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 9 September	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Communion 6.00pm Evensong	St Jude's St Boniface St Boniface
Sunday 12 August	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Communion 6.00pm Evensong	St Jude's St Boniface St Boniface	Wednesday 12 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 15 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	<b>Friday 14 September</b>	<b>7.30pm Tim Hayward Institution</b>	<b>St Boniface</b>
Sunday 19 August	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning prayer 10.00am Family worship 11.00am Family worship	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley	Sunday 16 September	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Matins	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 22 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Wednesday 19 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 26 August	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface	Sunday 23 September	9.30am Holy Communion including Harvest service 10.00am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Wednesday 29 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Wednesday 26 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
			Sunday 30 September	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Communion including Harvest service	St Jude's St Boniface
			Wednesday 3 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
			Sunday 7 October	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Jude's St Boniface Calveley

Services after the institution of our new vicar on 14 September are subject to change. Please check the notices in church for any changes to this schedule.



## Fatima Cruttock's cookery page

### Seven hour lamb

Dear Readers, the Major and I have been having a heart-to-heart and have decided that the time is right for us to move on. We are very fond of Bunbury, but the Major misses the colonial life and so he has invested our life savings in a small estate in Panama. He has packed a year's supply of Bovril and tea bags, cancelled his golf subscription, and purchased a large quantity of Factor 35 and Loperamide, so I know he is serious. This is one of the recipes which we will miss as we watch the sun set from our verandah.

#### Ingredients

1 large leg of lamb, about 2.6 to 3kg

4 large onions, sliced

8-10 garlic cloves, peeled but left whole

4-6 carrots left whole if small or quartered lengthways

300ml red wine

300ml stock

2 tbsp Armagnac or Madeira, to finish

Some fresh thyme sprigs, to finish

#### How to make it

1. Heat oven to 120°C/fan 100°C (or use the bottom oven on the Aga). Put your largest lidded casserole on the hob, open the windows and doors and turn the extractor fan on to remove the smoke generated by the next stage.
2. Place the seasoned leg of lamb in the casserole and brown on all sides - do this very thoroughly until it is a good dark brown as it will not brown during the cooking. (If you don't do it now, it will end up beige.) If the lamb sticks, add a drizzle of oil - legs of lamb differ. Allow 10mins on a high heat. Pour away any fat that has collected in the bottom of the pan.
3. Throw in the vegetables, followed by the wine and stock. Season and bring to the boil, then clap on the lid and put in the oven. Bake for seven hours, turning twice. After five hours the meat will be cooked and offer no resistance to the knife.
4. To finish the sauce, transfer the meat and vegetables to a serving dish. Strain the sauce into a jug and pour or blot away the fat with kitchen paper. Pour the sauce into a pan then boil the liquid quickly to reduce by a quarter. This is important, and it should turn just slightly thicker. Adjust seasoning, add the Armagnac or Madeira (and a bit of creme fraiche if you wish), and serve alongside the lamb, which should be served with a spoon, or 'a la cuchara' as we say in Panama. It goes really well with Dauphinoise potatoes!

**Adios amigos**

**JOANNE HARRIS**  
Bestselling author of *Chocolat*  
**The Well housegroup will be studying  
Peaches for Monsieur le Curé**

**Mondays starting 8 October  
1.30-3.30pm at Joy Parker's house**  
(Gables Cottage - opposite school - ideal for pick-up)  
**Toys for small children accompanying mums  
All welcome - just turn up!**

**Peaches for  
Monsieur le Curé**



### And the wine to go with it

Fatima has certainly given us a fine dish to bow out with - a touch autumnal, but hey ho, so is the weather! The old world wines have often evolved in unison with popular local cuisines of the region in question. In Italy, for example, it is in the northern Piedmonte region that a hearty slow-cooked lamb would be on the menu and it is the wonderful Nebbiolo grape that they turn into superb wines to drink with it. If you fancy pushing the boat out, find a Barolo - you will not be disappointed - or, for better value, look out for a Nebbiolo D'Alba or a wine made from Barbera, seen in Italy as Nebbiolo's little sister. The French deserve a mention, as the Burgundians have been

pairing Pinot Noir with lamb with some style for generations. They do not come cheap but the rewards are high. There are some pretty decent Vin Du Pays doing the rounds if you want to remain loyal to the French, or look out for some much improved incarnations from the new world, primarily Chile and New Zealand. I also sampled a jolly good one from Romania last week which was very well priced.

Good luck to Fatima and the Major - I shall miss you both!  
Cheers -

**Greg Williams, Dysart Arms**

**Don't forget to say Grace  
Benedicto benedicatur**

## Give us two minutes... Margaret Bourne



Margaret Bourne, well known in Bunbury - and appreciated by endless married couples - for her horticultural skills, came to Bunbury in 1968 looking for a

puppy and saw and bought a piece of land in Wyche Lane. She married in 1969 and settled into village life., becoming very involved in Bunbury School, which both of her children attended.

**If you had a motto, what would it be:**

Persevere, then you can take life's knocks and come back stronger.

**It's a celebrity beer call. Whom would you like to invite:**

Katherine Swynford, third wife of John of Gaunt and ancestress of the Tudor dynasty Elizabeth I. I should love to know the truth of a lot of relationships. Hatshepsut - first female Pharaoh. Successful women in men's worlds.

**What would you call your autobiography:**

"Be Happy."

**What was your first job:**

Covering for the Art Teacher at a large secondary school, while he had a year's sabbatical. I learnt a lot.

**What is the one thing that people would be surprised to learn about you:**

I am absolutely useless when it comes to anything that requires a plug.

**What is the best book you have read to date:**

"The Thorn Birds" by Colleen McCullough. My reading is usually for information, but this was just for pleasure and I loved it.

**If you could change one thing in Bunbury what would it be:**

To stop the encroachment on our green spaces; it is robbing us of the village's character. Also something should be done with the empty shop at the end of Wyche Lane; it looks so sad.

**If you were granted one wish, what would it be:**

To stop the neighbouring rabbit population using my garden as a gourmet restaurant.

**What would you like to achieve in the next 12 months**

To stay healthy so I can carry on as I am.

**What is your favourite place and why?**

South Africa. The scenery, the people, the flowers, the animals. It has it all.

**How would you like to spend your ideal weekend:**

With my boys and their families at a private game reserve in South Africa. I would love to see the reactions of my grandsons when they see the animals in the wild, and the delight of the adults at the number of vineyards.

# St Boniface Annual Fete



Beeston Castle

Bank Holiday

Monday 27 August

11am-5pm

Free car parking

Special family admission prices if paying in cash

**Browse**

Second-hand bookstall  
Golden Elephant stall  
Gardeners' club stall  
Crafts & foods

**Feast**

Snugbury's ice cream  
Teas, cakes, sandwiches  
Burger & bacon bap BBQ

**Watch**

Falconry display  
Folk duo  
Unicycle  
Circus workshop  
Juggling  
Family fun dog show

**Play**

Hoopla stall  
Bouncy castle  
Extreme adventure climb  
Tombola  
Splat the rat and other games

## Pudding club goes down a treat!



The second meeting of the Bunbury pudding Club took place at St. Boniface on Friday 29 June. Every one of the 80 available seats was taken

(some by well known Weightwatchers), and a few extras squeezed in at the last minute.

Twelve courageous cooks had donned their aprons and made a favourite pudding, delivered anonymously in the interests of fair voting. Puds ranged from hot marmalade and custard to caramel apples and chocolate torte - all, of course delicious! The guests faced the unenviable task of voting for their favourites and Jane Overy's individual

pots gooseberry and elderflower fool (pictured below) emerged as a very worthy winner. Jane (pictured left) was presented with the great Pudding Spoon of Bunbury by our last winner, Liz Mulcahy - an award which joins the Garden Club's ceremonial rolling pin in Jane's trophy cabinet.

The evening was organised by the St Boniface Target 1250 Group, who would like to thank all the willing cooks 'volunteered' for duty, and to all our guests who raised almost £800 towards the restoration of the church building. It was a really enjoyable event and several guests have already volunteered as cooks next time. We won't forget who you are!



Simply Falconry display





**Eric Wallington**  
Reader Emeritus  
**Thought of the month**

Those of us familiar with Walls' ice cream will appreciate the old joke: 'When was the first time ice cream was mentioned in the bible?' The answer, as many will know, is: 'In the passage about Walls of Jericho!' Jericho means 'city of peace'. I understand that it is the oldest still inhabited town in the world. It's also the lowest, at 1300 feet below sea level, standing in the Jordan Valley about ten miles from the north end of the Dead Sea. According to the Bible, the wall collapsed when Joshua's troops walked round blowing trumpets, but it appears that the excavations which have taken place there have not revealed the walls positively.

It was in Jericho that Jesus healed the blind and dined with the tax-collector Zacchaeus. It was in Jericho that he located the well-

known parable of the Good Samaritan. The Letter to the Hebrews lists the Jericho story among its examples of faith: 'By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days'. Hebrews also defines faith in this way: 'Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.'

Our relationship with God hinges upon faith. Don't we all sometimes wish that we could prove beyond any possible doubt that God exists? That we could produce a good knock-down argument that would prove to doubters that there is a life beyond death? We can't because God doesn't work that way. If there was a logical proof that God exists, then we would effectively be forced to believe in him but God doesn't want forced love - only love that is freely given, based on faith.

## Why don't more young people go to church?

Last month a Bunbury young adult, Charlotte Greenbury, gave readers her views on the barriers to young people coming to church.

A survey conducted by US organisation Barna Group, gives the views of 1,300 young people aged 18 to 29 who had been active in church at some point in their teenage years. No single reason emerged as to why they had stopped going to church, but six main reasons accounted for the experience of 59% of these young people:

- 1) Churches seem overprotective; their experience of church is as stifling, fear-based or risk-averse. The church "ignores the problems of the real world".
- 2) Their experience of Christianity was shallow. While many said that church was boring, they also said "faith is not relevant to my career or interests," or "God seems missing from my experience with church."
- 3) Churches seem antagonistic to science. 30% said the church was out-of-step with the scientific world, or that "Christianity is anti-science." Many have been disenchanted by the creation v evolution debate; others struggled to remain faithful to their beliefs and also to their calling in science-based industries.
- 4) Church experience regarding sexuality is often simplistic and judgmental. If they make mistakes they "feel judged in church".

5) Christianity's claim to exclusiveness is tough. In a society which promotes open-mindedness and tolerance, a faith which seems "afraid of the beliefs of other faiths" is difficult, and some in their 20s find they have to "choose between my faith and my friends".

6) Young adults say that the church is not a place where they can express doubts. They don't feel safe saying that Christianity doesn't always make sense. When the church does respond on issues, the response is trivial. Church "does not help with depression or other emotional problems" or those who feel marginalised.

These are significant issues, relevant for the UK church as well as the American. The usual "normal" of completing education, leaving home, finding a job, getting married and having children is no longer normal, and those in their 20s are delaying many of these till later, or are forced to do so by circumstances. In that turmoil and re-ordering, where do faith, and world view, and technology fit together?

There is a danger in dismissing these problems too casually, and an equal danger of focussing on them so much that others in the church then feel excluded. Leaders need much wisdom to follow the path between these two opposites.



**Pat Edgley**  
Reader  
**Playing the Game**

It's a great summer for sports fans: the European Cup, the Olympic Games - not to mention Wimbledon and the cricket.

In our over-commercialised world, it is no longer enough to enjoy healthy competition for its own sake, to experience the thrill of taking part, or watching a really good match, admiring good sportsmanship.

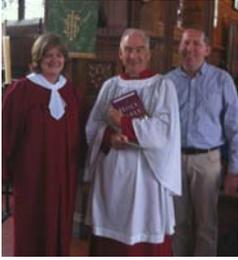
Money has taken control, and with it the temptation to cheat, taking drugs to enhance performance or throwing a game for a bribe.

How great it would be to get back to being good sports, playing for the sake of the game.

O God,  
Please help me to win,  
For I always want to win.  
But if in your inscrutable wisdom  
You will me not to win;  
Then make me a good loser.  
For when the one great scorer  
Comes to write against your name,  
He writes not that you won or lost,  
But how you played the game.

**Amen.**

# Thanks to Walter Done



On 8 July Walter Done, who retired as churchwarden at the end of May, was presented with a Bible in recognition of all his work. New warden Jill Robey presented the Bible, the 50th anniversary edition of the Revised Standard Version (2002). This was the Bible used in St. Boniface when Walter was growing up. Susi Waddington had done a beautiful inscription on the presentation page.

Jill outlined some of Walter's achievements, notably reordering of the back of the church when the meeting rooms were built with toilet and kitchen, the lowering of the floors in the nave that make using the church for concerts, holiday clubs and other events so much easier, the new stained glass window in the Ridley Chapel, and the baptistry area. As well as these visible improvements Walter oversaw essential restoration work such as the repairs to the North wall. The village has always responded to Walter's appeals for help with the cost of maintaining the building and churchyard.

Neil Dewson-Smyth, who has been warden for a year, described how he and Walter had worked together on the extra jobs that go with a vacancy. He paid tribute to Walter's support in a challenging year.

Walter thanked his wife Judy for her help and spoke movingly of his wish that one day his granddaughter Lizzie will own the Bible. He pointed out a charity board in the church which records that an ancestor, James Done, was Warden in the 1730s, and joked that there were those who thought that another 200 years would be about right before we have another Done as churchwarden!

# Superfast Broadband in Bunbury?

Cheshire East authority has joined forces with other councils to bring superfast broadband (SB) to as much of Cheshire as they can by the end of 2015. BT are providing SB where there is sufficient concentration of customers to justify the investment - which includes cities, towns and some of the larger villages. Businesses - many run from home - are most likely to benefit from SB but home users will also benefit.

For Bunbury residents, if enough people register interest, BT might well provide SB. Customers in Beeston, Calveley, Cholmondeley, Houghton, Peckforton, Ridley and Spurstow are more difficult to supply with SB owing to the smaller number and concentration of premises. BT's investment includes enhanced exchange equipment and the replacement of the copper wire connections from the serving exchange to the premises with optical fibre. The expected cost is £15 per month, possibly similar to current levels. If you are keen to get SB in Bunbury, register on the Connecting Cheshire website: [www.connectingcheshire.org.uk](http://www.connectingcheshire.org.uk). The website has lots of information, or you can email [nick.parker@homecall.co.uk](mailto:nick.parker@homecall.co.uk).

Nick Parker

# Canon on wheels



Canon John Bowers, former Vicar of Bunbury, who continues his ministry in Wirral, hopes to celebrate his 80th birthday this summer with a 200-mile sponsored cycling pilgrimage to the ancient monastery remains at Skellig Michael, an island off the west coast of Ireland. John will, for the sixth year running, be raising funds for the Barnabas Fund project in North Kenya.

The Archdeacon there, Christopher Chochi, has over 70 girls in his care, having rescued them from female genital mutilation and other

acts of wickedness. The girls are housed, clothed, fed and educated in a warm Christian setting. John and his daughter Ruth raised £16,660 for the girls last year, and this year his son Chris will ride with him. Chris will just have completed his 18-month term as Consul General in Iraqi Kurdistan. Should you wish to make a contribution, please send a cheque made payable to "Barnabas Fund" to Canon John at 2, Shalford Grove, West Kirby, CH48 9XY. Please indicate with a signature if your donation is to be gift aided. No deductions will be made from your gift which will be acknowledged personally.

# News from St Jude's

Here we are in August, but where (you may ask) is summer? However bad the weather, we did not let it affect St Jude's annual summer lunch. Held this year in the garden of that lifelong supporter of church affairs, Anne Latham, more people than ever came along and whilst we did not see much of the sun, the smiling faces of our guests more than made up for it. Financially it was a great success, raising more than ever.

It is encouraging to see how much affection there is for St Jude's and how that is expressed in financial support. Many friends make gifts in their own quiet way, and to them we say a heartfelt thank you.

The health reports on our poorly parishioners are encouraging. Barbara Morgan-Wynne is out of hospital and reportedly making good progress. Ruth Aidley is still a guest of the NHS, but last reports contained more reassuring news. Come back soon girls, we are missing your smiling faces.

Frank Latham of happy memory is still living quietly in the rest home in Malpas.

Sadly we have to report the passing of a long time resident of our parish, Vera Stockton, whose funeral was held in church. Vera is at rest in the churchyard; may she rest in peace and rise in glory.

# Messy Church 'does' creation!

Messy Church got to grips with the creation story last month, with games, crafts and - popular with the dads - primordial slime!



## Ethel Walley - a Queen to her family for more than a day



Former Bunbury Rose Queen, Ethel Walley, was laid to rest at St Boniface on Thursday 5 July, writes **Kirsty Mason**.

Ethel lived her childhood years in Sadlers Wells, Bunbury, where she delighted in playing in the woods and climbing trees. At Bunbury village day in 1931, Ethel was crowned 'Rose Queen' for the day; this ceremony would later become a tradition in

which Ethel was the first member to take part. She was also elected by Bunbury School to take part in the Malpas Deanery Sports tournament. Ethel and her sister Nancy delighted in gathering wild flowers in order to take part in the Bunbury flower show. They won first prize almost every time.

After Ethel married, she and her husband moved to Faddiley where she gave birth to their two children, George and Ethel. They then moved to a farm in Ridley, which is where George and Ethel spent most of their childhood days. Ethel made certain that her two children enjoyed a delightful and fun-filled childhood and did indeed succeed in creating their happiness. It was when they moved to Milton Green that Ethel and her husband's love of flowers deepened. This was what they later described as their 'happiest years' together. After the death of her husband in August 1995 Ethel proceeded to develop her love for flowers further. Her golden memories, mainly with her husband and children, will be forever cherished and she was a queen - not only for one day - in many people's eyes.



Ethel was Bunbury's first Rose Queen 1931

## Family pays tribute to Georgie Cheers - compassionate and vibrant

The fulfilled and endearing life of Georgina Mary Cheers was remembered with love and warmth on Monday 9 July 2012, writes **Kirsty Mason**.

'Georgie', as her friends and family called her, was a kind and caring lady who touched the lives of many in need of her comforting nature. She was born on 25 April 1932, the only child of John Isaac and Lizzie Ravenscroft. In her early childhood she lived at Woodlands farm, Calveley, before moving to Bank Farm where she lived most of her life.

After resorting to a bet with his friends that he wouldn't ask Georgie on a date, John finally plucked up enough courage to ask her out and they married at St Boniface church on 10 September 1958. Then came the birth of their daughter Jane, with whom Georgie shared a strong, loving, lifelong bond. John and Georgie celebrated their golden wedding anniversary a few years ago after 50 wonderful years of marriage. Cherished memories were shared with friends young and old of events and gatherings in which Georgie was always keen to be involved. She raised a great deal of money for good causes by assisting in the organisation of many events including a Caribbean night at Bank Farm. The birth of her two grandchildren, Samantha and James, highlighted how young at heart she was throughout her entire life. Her compassionate and vibrant charm will never be forgotten.



*The weaker we feel, the harder we lean on God. And the harder we lean, the stronger we grow.*  
*Joni Eareckson Tada*

## General Synod debates women bishops (and other topics)



The Church of England's law-making body – General Synod – met for its July sessions over the weekend 7-8 July, writes member of the house of laity, **John Mason**. As usual many topics were debated including: the worldwide mission of the church; the future of education

in faith schools; new forms of service that can make church more attractive to young and old; and the problem of conflict in the Middle East and how the church might respond and help. And as usual the coverage in the media concentrated almost exclusively on one topic: women bishops. As a member of General Synod I think this is a great shame: it does not appear to reflect well on the church and it detracts from all the other, often excellent, debates and decisions that are made.

Falling into the same trap myself, however, I should report briefly what happened with regard to women bishops. It had been anticipated a few months ago that, after many years of gestation, this would be the occasion when the necessary legislation was finally passed. However, changes introduced recently by the bishops - intended to make it more attractive overall - made it unacceptable to those most for women bishops, and so all the

Synod did (after about three hours of debate!) was to vote for an adjournment. This was the only way constitutionally that would allow the bishops to 'think again' and hopefully come up with something acceptable to all sides. Many metaphors were used to describe what they need to do, 'square the circle' being the most popular which is unfortunate as it can be proved that that particular mathematical problem is insoluble!

From the outside, this may look completely bizarre. It seems so out of step with the rest of the world, and out of step with the majority of Anglicans. The problem is that a minority within the church believe for theological reasons that women should not be bishops, and as a church we want to be as inclusive as possible – we don't want to be accused of being uncaring. So the proposed legislation makes provision for those who wish to retain a male bishop. This creates a major challenge: finding the right balance between providing rights to those opposed whilst not making women bishops "second class" and therefore alienating the majority who wish (like me) to see women bishops as soon as possible. That's the delicate balance that the bishops have already tinkered with once and have been asked to revisit. I hope they get it right this time so that when General Synod next meets – in November – we can finally pass this historic legislation and in the future all bishops will simply be bishops, not male or *women* bishops.

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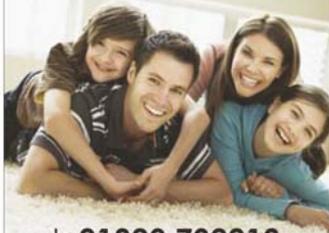
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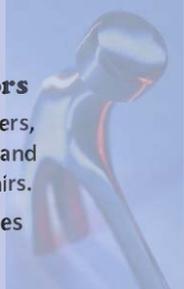
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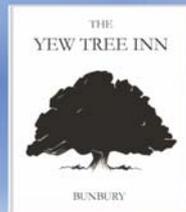
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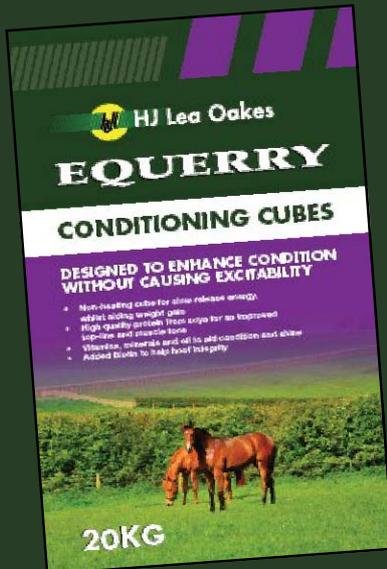
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